

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE ARTS**

**Connecticut Arts Council
Monday, July 11, 2016
Hartford Hilton, Hartford, CT**

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Fritz Jellinghaus, Mimsie Coleman, Mary DeCroce, Jan Dilenschneider, Helen Klisser During, Philip Eliasoph, Lisa Scails, Catherine Smith, Amy Wynn, Ted Yudain

Absent: Jimmy Greene, Karen Osbrey

Staff: Kristina Newman-Scott, Michael Price, Bonnie Koba, Tamara Dimitri, Rhonda Olisky

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:34 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Catherine Smith, seconded by Ted Yudain to approve the Arts Council minutes of September 28th, 2015; October 19th, 2015; February 22nd, 2016; and April 18, 2016.

(Y-10; N-0; Abstain-0)

III. Chairman's Report

Fritz Jellinghaus commended Bonnie Koba for the HOT Schools Summer Institute opening day. Fritz stated that the energy felt was inspiring. The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) should be very proud of the HOT Schools Program. It is evident why it's deemed a national model. Fritz encouraged all council members to attend any of the presentations that will be offered throughout the week.

IV. Director's Report

Kristina Newman-Scott reported on the current status of COA's budget. The Arts Commission line received a \$47,000 cut. The Directed Local Funds recipients (line items) also received a reduction. In response to the cut, COA is suspending the Peer Advisor Network program. However, COA plans to develop a Professional Development series for artists and organizations for FY18.

COA also cut HOT Schools administrative fee to Wesleyan by 2%. There is no need for additional cuts.

Kristina reported that COA will receive the first draft of the Strategic Plan by the end of the month. Commissioner Catherine Smith stated that the process was really great and thanked everyone who participated.

Kristina received a comparison chart of staff across the nation for arts agencies. Connecticut ranks with the smallest amount of staff. One of the Commissioner's top priorities for FY17 is to fill vacant positions for COA.

COA has launched their newsletter. The second one has just been sent. Kristina thanked Rhonda Olisky for taking the lead in this project.

COA will be developing its own Cultural Equity Statement.

V. Action Items for Recommendations

A. FY17 Public Art in the Community Grants

It is recommended that the Arts Council approve nine (9) applicants as recipients of the FY17 Public Art in the Community Project grant for a total of \$153,000.00.

Motion: Mimsie Coleman

Second: Catherine Smith

(Y-10; N-0; Abstain-0)

B. FY17 Arts Learning Grants

It is recommended that the Arts Council approve twelve (12) applicants as recipients of the FY17 Arts Learning grant for a total of \$177,280.00

Motion: Lisa Scails

Second: Mary DeCroce

(Y-10; N-0; Abstain-0)

C. FY17 Arts and Community Impact Grants

It is recommended that the Arts Council approve twelve (12) applicants as recipients of the FY17 Arts and Community Impact grant for a total of \$154,699.00

Motion: Lisa Scails

Second: Mimsie Coleman

(Y-10; N-0; Abstain-0)

D. FY17 Supporting Arts in Place Grants

It is recommended that the Arts Council approve eighty (80) applicants as recipients of the FY17 Supporting Arts in Place grant for a total of \$515,000.00

Motion: Amy Wynn

Second: Catherine Smith

(Y-10; N-0; Abstain-0)

E. FY17 Partnership Agreement for the Folk and Traditional Arts Program

It is recommended that the Arts Council approve a partnership grant in the amount of \$11,500 to the Connecticut Historical Society for the Cultural Heritage Arts Program (CHAP).

Motion: Mimsie Coleman

Second: Ted Yudain

(Y-10; N-0; Abstain-0)

F. FY17 Designated Regional Service Organizations Partnership Grants

It is recommended that the Arts Council approve an amount not to exceed \$206,199 for the FY2017 allocation (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017) Regional Service Agreements to six regional service organizations.

Motion: Ted Yudain

Second: Jan Dilenschneider

Recuse: Lisa Scails and Amy Wynn

(Y-8; N-0; Abstain-0; Recuse-2)

G. FY17 Regional Initiative Grant to Designated Regional Service Organizations

It is recommended that the Arts Council approve an amount not to exceed \$315,000 for Regional Initiative Grant program (REGI) project grant awards to be re-granted by the state's nine Designated Regional Service Organizations. \$35,000 will be awarded per region.

Motion: Mimsie Coleman
Second: Michael Price
Recuse: Lisa Scails and Amy Wynn

(Y-8; N-0; Abstain-0; Recuse-2)

H. FY17 HOT Schools Partnership Grant

It is recommended that the Arts Council approve a non-matching grant in the amount of \$350,000 to Wesleyan University, Green Street Teaching and Learning Center, to support the planning, implementation, and management of Connecticut's Higher Order Thinking Schools Program, including the July 2017, annual HOT Schools Summer Institute.

Motion: Amy Wynn
Second: Mary DeCroce

(Y-10; N-0; Abstain-0)

VI. Other Business

The Connecticut Arts Alliance has been inspired by the change in language to the Arts Endowment Fund statutes. They will be meeting monthly as an action group to try and devise a strategy for additional stable funding for the arts in Connecticut.

Bonnie Koba thanked COA's council members and staff for coming to the HOT Schools Institute opening day and hopes that next year there will be even more participation.

VII: Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 pm.

The next Arts Council meeting will be held on Monday, September 19th, 2016 at the DECD/CT Office of the Arts offices.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lu Rivera
Administrative Assistant